## **Abstract**

A new method, which builds the models at m-th step directly from models at the initial step, is provided to minimize the storage and calculation. The method therefore merges the MxN transforms into a single transformation. The merge guarantees the exactness of the transformations and make it possible for recognizers on mobile devices to have adaptation capability.

A new iterative hierarchical linear regression method for generating a set of linear transforms to adapt HMM speech models to a new environment for improved speech recognition is disclosed. The method determines a new set of linear transforms at an iterative step by Estimate-Maximize (EM) estimation, and then combines the new set of linear transforms with the prior set of linear transforms to form a new merged set of linear transforms. An iterative step may include realignment of adaptation speech data to the adapted HMM models to further improve speech recognition performance.

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